

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 090860
ORIGIN SS-25

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O P 220259Z APR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USINT BAGHDAD IMMEDIATE
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 090860

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: PFOR, IZ, US

SUBJECT: IRAQI UN MISSION ACQUISITION OF FIREARMS

REF: A) BAGHDAD 422 (NOTAL), B) STATE 53716 (NOTAL),
C) BAGHDAD 502 (NOTAL)

1. THE DEFENDENT INVOLVED IN THE ILLEGAL SUPPLY TO THE
IRAQI UN MISSION OF SUBMACHINE GUNS WILL GO ON TRIAL IN
BALTIMORE MONDAY, APRIL 25, 1977. YOU SHOULD INFORM
FORMIN DG OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS ZAHAWI OF THE TRIAL ASAP,
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AND AGAIN PRESS FOR A RETURN OF THE THIRTY MISSING
WEAPONS.

2. YOU SHOULD POINT OUT TO ZAHAWI THAT THE PROSECUTION
WILL MAKE CLEAR THAT 100 MAC-10 SUBMACHINE GUNS WERE
DELIVERED TO THE IRAQI UN MISSION ON NOVEMBER 12, 1976 AND
THAT ONLY 70 WERE RECOVERED. THE CULPABILITY OF AT-TAYYAR,

THE MISSION'S NUMBER TWO WHOM WE EXPELLED, WILL ALSO BE MADE CLEAR. YOU SHOULD EXPLAIN THAT WE EXPECT THE TRIAL TO GENERATE PUBLICITY UNFAVORABLE TO IRAQ.

3. FYI: THE ASSISTANT U.S. ATTORNEY IN CHARGE OF CASE HAS INDICATED THAT HE WISHES TO HAVE AMBASSADOR BENNET

TESTIFY ABOUT HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH IRAQI PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE AL-SHAIKLY. AN NEA REPRESENTATIVE (PADEFORD) WILL TESTIFY AS TO NEA POLICY ON GUN SALES IN GENERAL AND SALES TO IRAQ IN PARTICULAR. END FYI.

4. FOR BONN AND ATHENS: WE UNDERSTAND THE FORMER IRAQI UN PERMREP AL-SHAIKLY IS STATIONED IN BONN AND THAT AL-TAYYAR IS STATIONED IN ATHENS. IF THIS COURT CASE GENERATES THE PUBLICITY WE EXPECT, THE PRESS MAY ATTEMPT TO CONTACT YOU OR THE IRAQI DIPLOMATS. YOU SHOULD REFER ALL QUERIES TO THE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN.
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